

Remarks

Claims 1-25 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10 15-19, and 22 have been amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found on page 2 of the instant application. The other claims were amended to correct editorial oversights.

Page 1, third paragraph, and page 5, final paragraph of the specification have been amended to correct informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 9, 10, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 9, 10 and 22 have been amended accordingly.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-4, 9-10, 11-12, 13-18, and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seil (U.S. 1,785,365).

Seil discloses a method for the removal of carbon bisulphide from flowing fuel gas such as coal, gas (*see* Seil, Col. 1, lines 1-5). The gas is contacted with a solvent, such as kerosene. The solvent is effective for the removal of both naphthalene and carbon bisulphide (*see* Seil, col. 2, lines 51-52 and lines 63-67). Seil does not disclose, and Applicants have not found, a method in Seil where the fuel gas comprises air. Seil does not disclose or suggest contacting a non-hydrocarbon gas stream with a liquid hydrocarbon stream to remove organic sulfur compounds.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seil taken together with Mehra (U.S. 4,696,688).

Seil discloses a method as stated above. Mehra discloses a method of separating and recovering ethane, propane, and higher boiling hydrocarbons from natural gas streams (*see* Mehra, col. 1, lines 27-31). Mehra also discloses that kerosene is a high-boiling fuel stock (*see* Mehra, col. 1, lines 66-67).

Seil and Mehra do not disclose, either alone or in combination, contacting a non-hydrocarbon gas stream with a liquid hydrocarbon stream to remove organic sulfur compounds from the non-hydrocarbon gas stream.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 7-8, 19, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seil taken together with Sperr, Jr. (U.S. 1,578,687).

Seil discloses a method as stated above.

Sperr discloses a scrubber consisting of steel turnings (*see* col. 4, lines 83-84). The steel turnings are “in the form of spirals not exceeding over 1 inch in diameter and not over approximately 12 inches long” (*see* col. 5, lines 40-45). This is used in a method for the removal of naphthalene from fuel gases (*see* col. 1, lines 10-14).

Once again, Seil and Sperr do not disclose, either alone or in combination, contacting a liquid hydrocarbon stream to remove organic sulfur compounds from the non-hydrocarbon gas stream.



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Respectfully submitted,

CONOCOPHILLIPS COMPANY –
I. P. LEGAL

By Bronwyn A. Weldaert
Bronwyn A. Weldaert
Registration No. 52,350

BAW:adh

CONOCOPHILLIPS COMPANY – I. P. LEGAL
P.O. Box 2443
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74005
918-661-0652

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Bronwyn A. Weldaert
Bronwyn A. Weldaert